

**Quick Summary:** This section describes the existing pedestrian infrastructure in Hertford as well as major destinations and the condition of pedestrian access to them. This will assist in creating recommendations that address existing needs and inadequacies.

## Section 3. Existing Facilities

### 3.1. Introduction

Besides existing sidewalks, there are a variety of features in a town which are essential to a complete pedestrian environment. Existing roads, nearby land uses, and major destinations are some of these important features. Major destinations can include schools, shopping areas, recreation facilities, and employment centers. The following paragraphs describe the existing facilities in Hertford and discuss how they may influence the recommendations in the Pedestrian Plan.

### 3.2. Major Roads

Figure 3-1 shows a map of the major roads and existing sidewalks in Hertford. NC 17 is the major access route to Hertford for most visitors traveling east and west. Church Street (formerly NC 17 prior to the bypass construction), is the major north-south route in the Town, connecting the Town to its nearest neighboring municipality of Winfall. The Town is also within 15 miles of Edenton, which can be accessed heading west on NC 17. Other major roads in town include

- ◆ Harvey Point Road, which begins southeast of the intersection of Church Street and NC 17 and provides connections into town from the Perquimans County Recreation Center, the historic Newbold-White House, and Albemarle Plantation.
- ◆ Edenton Road Street, which has residential development and Perquimans High School.
- ◆ Grubb Street, which has the municipal building, Missing Mill Park, residential development, and connects to the area west of town.

### **3.3. Sidewalk**

Figure 3-1 shows a map of existing sidewalk and crosswalks as identified through an inventory of Hertford conducted on August 13, 2007. Sidewalk in Hertford is primarily located within the downtown area bounded by Grubb Street, Front Street, King Street, and Edenton Road Street, however there is some sidewalk in residential neighborhoods beyond the inner core area. Sidewalk was recently constructed on Church Street to extend from the downtown area to the intersection of Church Street and NC 17, thus providing better access to the shopping and residential areas at the intersection to downtown. Major intersections have ADA-compliant curb ramps, although there are some locations where this is not available. Major missing pedestrian connections are located along the S-bridge to connect to Winfall, along Grubb Street to connect from Church Street to Missing Mill Park, and along Harvey Point Road to the Perquimans Recreation Center. Recommendations in the plan should address these missing locations.

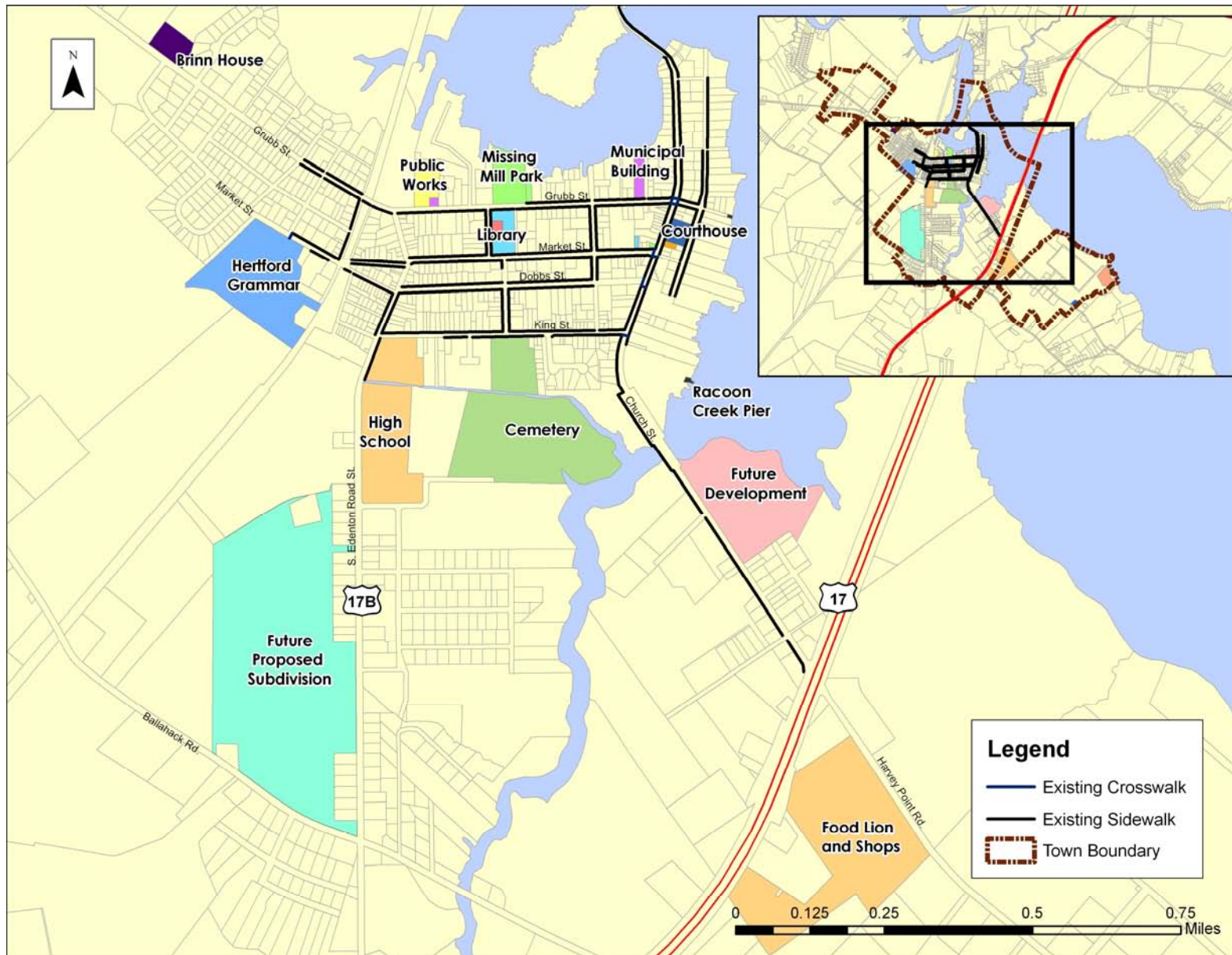


Figure 3-1. Map of major roads and existing sidewalks and crosswalks in Hertford.

### **3.4. Land Uses and Zoning**

Figure 3-2 shows Hertford's current zoning which extends to the limits of the Town's ETJ (extra-territorial jurisdiction), which approximately defines what land uses the Town will allow. Most of the commercial and residential land uses center around the downtown core area. Hertford is in the process of developing a business park to the southeast of Town on Harvey Point Road near to the Perquimans County Recreation Center. Southeast of town is Albemarle Plantation, which has almost 250 existing residential homes and is still under construction. Although this subdivision is beyond town limits, Hertford is the nearest town and therefore the shopping and recreation destination for many of these residents. Hertford is currently experiencing tremendous growth pressure for further residential and commercial construction, however, a moratorium on development has been in effect until adequate water treatment facilities and capacity can be constructed. The Town is currently in the process of constructing a new wastewater treatment plan, which should be finalized in April 2008; the moratorium is expected to be lifted in October 2007.

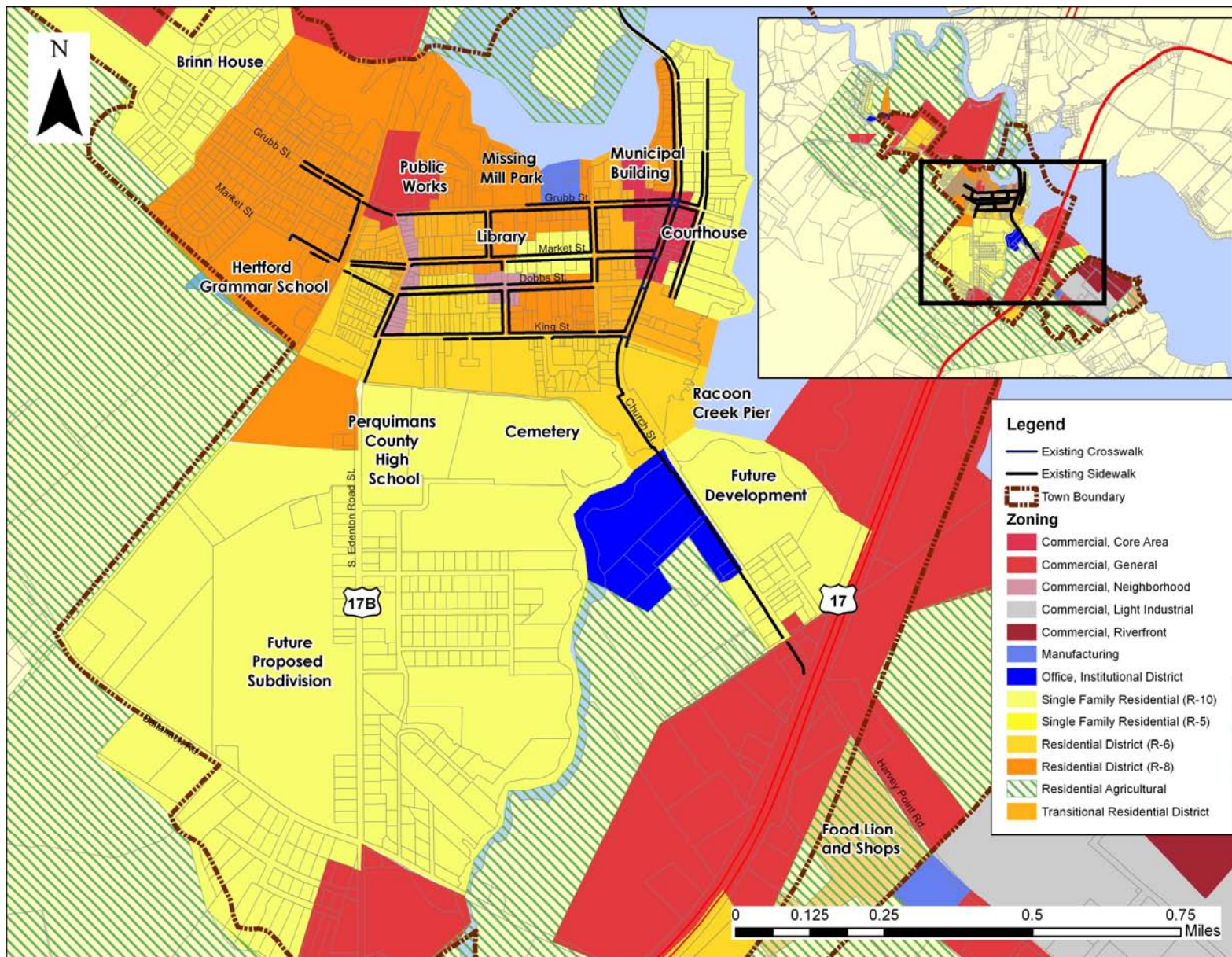


Figure 3-2. A map of zoning in Hertford.

### **3.5. Major Destinations**

It is important to identify major destinations and attractions in Hertford because these are some of the places that people will walk to as pedestrians and should therefore have pedestrian access. Figure 3-3 shows the locations of the major destinations in Hertford as discussed in the following paragraphs. As of December 2007, several new developments are expected to be constructed in Hertford within the next year. Item 8 on Figure 3-3 (Future Mixed-Use Development, tentatively named Hertford Bay) is proposed to entail 120 waterfront townhomes and some mixed use on the road frontage with shops and office space. Item 9, Settler's Landing, has been proposed to have 50 homes initially and then an additional 70 to 80 homes later. Ten homes have already been built on the property.

#### *Shopping and Business*

A major destination in Hertford is the downtown area, where there are many businesses, several restaurants, Town Hall, the county courthouse, and the Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau. Beyond downtown, another major destination for shopping and other businesses is the intersection of NC 17 and Church Street/Harvey Point Road where there are several restaurants, businesses, and a nearby grocery store.

#### *Schools*

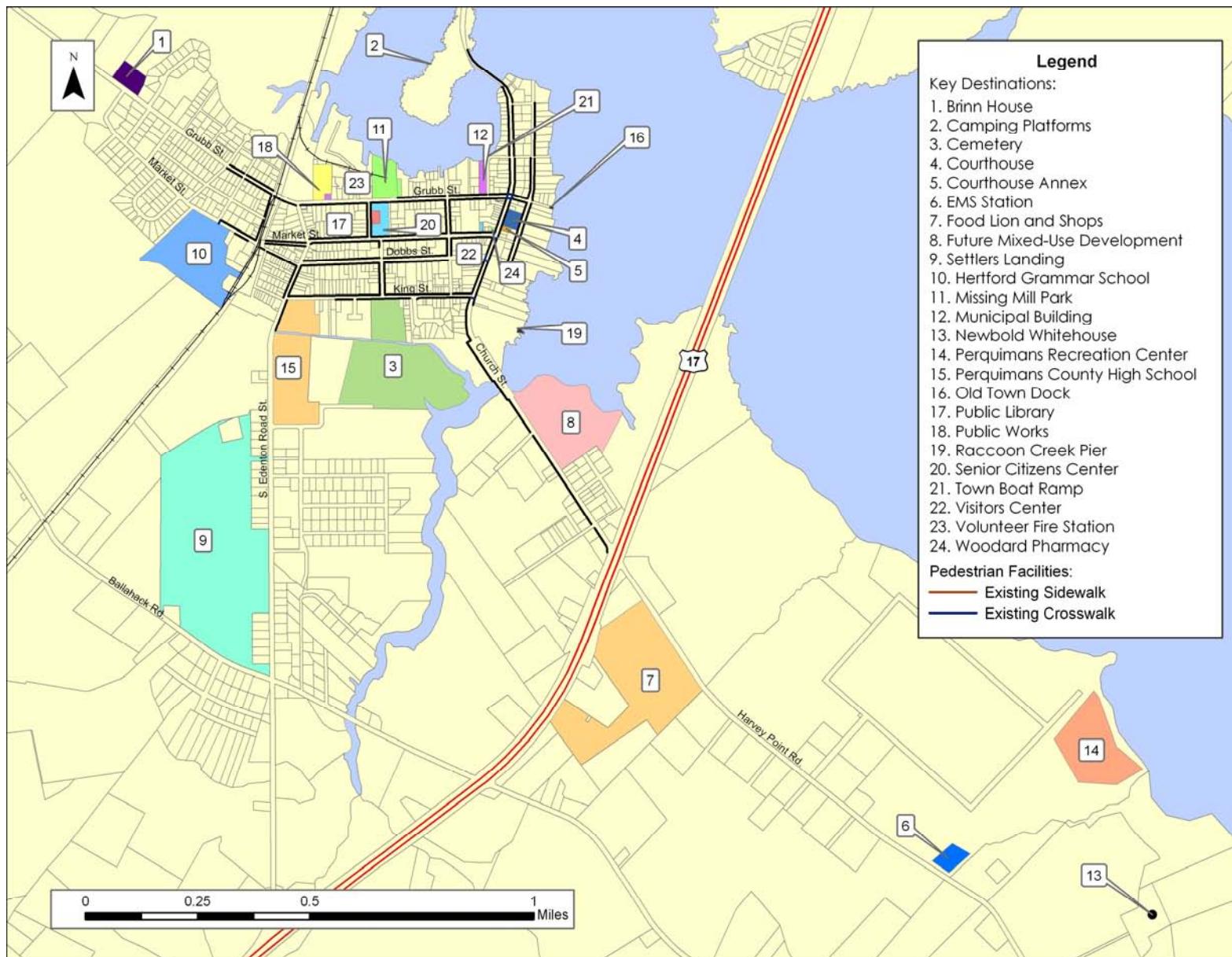
Hertford has two schools, both of which are part of the Perquimans County School district: Perquimans High School and Hertford Grammar School. Students to both schools come from all parts of the County, although Hertford Grammar School does attract students which are within walking distance. Many of the students are from nearby Winfall. In 2007, Hertford Grammar School had an enrollment of 369 students and Perquimans High School had an enrollment of 564 students<sup>1</sup>. The schools provide busing service for students, but many arrive by car. Neither school has conducted a Safe Routes to School program.

#### *Recreation Facilities*

Hertford has several recreational facilities, including Missing Mill Park and Tennis Courts, both located on Grubb Street and the Perquimans County Recreation Center, located on Harvey Point Road southeast of Town. Hertford also hosts a Senior Center, library, and several boat ramps and water access points. More connections and signage are needed to make these facilities more accessible to visitors and residents.

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<sup>1</sup> Source for school enrollment: NC School Report Cards Website, 2003 – 2004 school year.  
<http://www.ncreportcards.org>.



**Figure 3-3. A map of some of the major landmarks and destinations in Hertford.**

### **3.6. Summary**

It is important to assess pedestrian access to all the major destinations in Hertford in order to develop recommendations that meet all the needs of the community. Although there are adequate sidewalk facilities in downtown Hertford, it is clear that the Town will need pedestrian access from residential areas to major destinations such as the Perquimans County Recreation Center and schools. In addition, it is important that the conditions along the existing facilities be comfortable and convenient for pedestrians – through amenities such as shade, benches, trash cans, and accessible intersection crossings. Not only will improved pedestrian conditions help to make Hertford a better place to live, it will also make it a more inviting place to visit. Recommendations in the Plan will target the need to provide safe, convenient, and comfortable access to major destinations and recreation routes in order to provide better, more enjoyable, walking environments for residents and visitors alike.